



NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA JANUARY 1 SHEEP AND GOATS

LINCOLN, Neb. February 28, 2019 - All sheep and lamb inventory in Nebraska on January 1, 2019 totaled 75,000 head, down 5,000 from last year, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Breeding sheep inventory totaled 64,000 head, down 3,000 from last year. Ewes one year and older totaled 53,000 head, down 2,000 from the previous year. Rams one year and older totaled 3,000, unchanged from last year. Total replacement lambs totaled 8,000 head, down 1,000 from last year.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 11,000 head, down 2,000 from last year. A total of 1,000 head were mature sheep (one year and older) while the remaining 10,000 were under one year. Market lamb weight groups were estimated as follows: 2,700 lambs were under 65 pounds; 1,700 were 65-84 pounds; 2,600 were 85-105 pounds; 3,000 were over 105 pounds.

The 2018 lamb crop totaled 65,000 head, down 5,000 from 2017. The 2018 **lambing rate** was 118 per 100 ewes one year and older, compared with 121 in 2017.

Sheep deaths totaled 3,100 head, down 600 from last year. **Lamb deaths** totaled 7,500 head, down 500 from last year.

Sheep and lambs slaughtered on farm totaled 800 head, up 100 from last year.

Shorn wool production during 2018 was 410,000 pounds, down 30,000 from 2017. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 58,000 head, down 4,000 from 2017. **Weight per fleece** was 7.1 pounds, unchanged from last year. The average price paid for wool sold in 2018 was \$0.88 per pound, compared with \$0.79 in 2017. The total value of wool produced in Nebraska was 361,000 dollars in 2018.

Milk goats and kids inventory in Nebraska totaled 4,000 head, up 500 from last year.

Access the national report at:

<https://usda.library.cornell.edu/concern/publications/000000018>

Access the National Livestock Executive Briefing at:

https://www.nass.usda.gov/Newsroom/Executive_Briefings/2019/02-28-2019.pdf

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